

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 NIC-01 /114 W

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R 221015Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2722

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL TANGIER

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 315

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MO

SUBJ: UMT LEADER SAYS MOROCCAN ELECTIONS WILL NOT TAKE
PLACE

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH LABOFF ON APRIL 19 UNION MAROCAINE
DU TRAVAIL (UMT) SEC GEN BEN SEDDIK SAID THAT PALACE HAS
TOLD UNFP AND UMT THAT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS ONCE PLANNED
FOR FALL OF THIS YEAR ARE NOW INDEFINITELY POSPONED.
IN AN UNUSUALLY UP-BEAT STATEMENT, BEN SEDDIK SAID THAT
IT IS NOW "CONCEIVABLE" THAT THE OPPOSITION (MEANING THE
ABDELLAH IBRAHIM FACTION OF THE UNFP) WILL HAVE A ROLE IN
AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT.

2. ADDING HIS VOICE TO THE MULTITUDE OF PROGNOSTICATORS
PREDICTING A MINISTERIAL RE-SHUFFLE, BEN SEDDIK SAID THAT
A NUMBER OF CHANGES WOULD BE ANNOUNCED VERY SOON, PROBABLY
DURING THE APRIL 20-21 WEEKEND. IN THEORY SICK AND/OR
CORRUPT MINISTERS WOULD BE REPLACED BY CAPABLE YOUNG TECHNOCRATS.
FORMIN BENHIMA IS AMONG THOSE TO BE REPLACED.

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3. BEN SEDDIK EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OPPORTUNITY TO

MEET AND TALK AT LENGTH WITH AMBASSADOR NEUMANN IN LATE
JANUARY AND SAID HE VERY MUCH WANTED THE DIALOGUE TO CONTINUE.
BEN SEDDIK PROPOSED ANOTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH AMBASSADOR,
PERHAPS TOGETHER WITH ABDELLAH IBRAHIM.
BRUBECK

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NNN

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